

Comparisons of Job Characteristics

Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091)

Associated Occupation: Surgical Technologists (29-2055)

[Compare Knowledge](#)

[Compare Skills](#)

[Compare Abilities](#)

[Compare Detailed Work Activities](#)

[Compare Tools and Technologies](#)

<<	Focus occupation element is much lower
<	Focus occupation element is lower
0	Focus occupation element is at a similar level
>	Focus occupation element is at a higher level
>>	Focus occupation element is at a much higher level

Knowledge

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 88

Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091)

Associated Occupation: Surgical Technologists (29-2055)

Associated Occupation's Key Knowledge Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Medicine and Dentistry	3.7	15.2	15.5	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Customer and Personal Service	11.3	13.2	15.9	>	Current knowledge level is likely sufficient
Biology	3.7	9.2	3.5	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Skills

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 81

Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091)

Associated Occupation: Surgical Technologists (29-2055)

Associated Occupation's Key Skills Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Coordination	9.1	11.6	8.2	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Operation Monitoring	6.6	10.6	7.6	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Equipment Maintenance	3.5	6.9	4.6	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Management of Material Resources	3.7	6.5	3.3	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Equipment Selection	3.3	5.6	3.6	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Abilities		Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 85			
Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091) Associated Occupation: Surgical Technologists (29-2055)					
Associated Occupation's Key Abilities Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating	Evaluation of Focus Occupation	
Arm-Hand Steadiness	6.8	11.4	10.2	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Manual Dexterity	6.5	11.4	8.4	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Selective Attention	8.7	11.4	8.5	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Far Vision	7.8	11.2	6.6	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Perceptual Speed	7.4	11.0	6.4	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Flexibility of Closure	7.8	10.5	6.1	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Hearing Sensitivity	5.6	9.0	5.5	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Auditory Attention	5.9	8.8	5.8	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Time Sharing	6.6	8.6	6.1	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Activities that Both Occupations Have in Common		Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 73
Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091) Associated Occupation: Surgical Technologists (29-2055)		
Work Activities	Exclusivity of Activity	
Observe patient condition	48	
Prepare patients for tests, therapy, or treatments	70	
Take vital signs	56	
Use clinical sterilizing technique	71	
Use knowledge of medical terminology	40	

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily perform all of the listed activities. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the activity is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations engage in that activity.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Tools and Technologies that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus
Occupation to Associated
Occupation: 35

Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091)
Associated Occupation: Surgical Technologists (29-2055)

Tools and Technologies	Exclusivity
Autoclave and sterilizer equipment and accessories	12
Blood pressure units and related products	11
Computers	1
Content authoring and editing software	1
Industry specific software	1
Information exchange software	1
Network applications software	1
Oxygen therapy delivery systems and devices	13
Presterilization cleaning equipment and solutions	24
Surgical equipment and accessories and related products	23

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily use all of the listed tools and technologies. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the tool or technology is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations use that tool or technology.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.